



Biography



United States Air Force

Colonel Steven W. Bernard is the commander of the 19th Air Refueling Group, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia. The "Black Knights" are the US Air Force's only stand-alone tanker Group. They operate KC-135R aircraft providing rapid deployable air refueling and airlift capability worldwide. The 19th supports all Active Duty & Reserve C-5 Wings by providing Isochronal inspections and integrated field level maintenance while Air Mobility Command's C-5 aircraft are undergoing air logistics center depot repairs.

Colonel Bernard graduated from the University of Vermont in 1980. He flew and commanded in Operations JUST CAUSE, DESERT SHIELD, SOUTHERN WATCH and ALLIED FORCE. He commanded the 363d Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron, the 93d Air Refueling Squadron and the 92d Expeditionary Operations Group. Colonel Bernard has also served as the Chief of Staff of JTF-SWA, Director of Staff of the Combined Air HQ for CENTAF-Fwd and Deputy Commander of the 22nd Operations Group.

EDUCATION:

1980 - Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering Degree, University of Vermont
1984 - Squadron Officer School, by correspondence
1988 - Squadron Office School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama
1994 - Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence
1995 - Master's Degree in Information Resource Mgmt, Webster University
2000 - Air War College, by correspondence

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. March 1981 - March 1982, student, Undergraduate Pilot Training, Reese Air Force Base, Texas
2. March 1982 - July 1982, student, KC-135 Combat Crew Training Course, Castle Air Force Base, California
3. July 1982 - August 1988, KC-135 Copilot, Aircraft Commander, Instructor Pilot, later Flight Commander, 380th Air Refueling Wing, Plattsburgh Air Force Base, New York
4. August 1988 - August 1991, Stan/Evaluation Aircraft Commander, later KC-135 Branch Chief of Stan/Eval, 407th and 42nd Air Refueling Squadrons, Loring Air Force Base, Maine
5. August 1991 - May 1994, CCTS Instructor Pilot, CCTS Flight Commander, 93rd Air Refueling Squadron, later 398th Operations Group Training Program Manager, Castle Air Force Base, California
6. May 1994 - January 1997, Chief of Tanker Advanced Concepts, Chief, KC-135 Operations and Training, HQ Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois
7. January 1997 - June 2000, Operations Officer, later Squadron Commander, 93rd Air Refueling Squadron, Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington
8. June 2000 - February 2003, Chief, Strategies and Initiatives Branch, Joint Mobility Operations Center Crisis Action Team Chief, later Chief, Agile Transportation for 21st Century, USTRANSCOM, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois
9. February 2003 - June 2003, Chief of Staff, JTF-SWA, Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia
10. July 2003 - March 2004, Director of Staff, Combined Air HQ, Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar
11. March 2004 - December 2004, Deputy Commander, 22nd Operations Group, McConnell Air Force Base, Kansas
12. December 2004 - present, Commander, 19th Air Refueling Group, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia



FLIGHT INFORMATION:

Rating: Command Pilot

Hours Flown: More than 4,000

Aircraft Flown: KC-135A, Q, R, T, E, RT, T-38 and T-37

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

Bronze Star

Defense Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster

Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters

Aerial Achievement Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal

Combat Readiness Medal with four oak leaf clusters

National Defense Service Medal with one device

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with three devices

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:

Second Lieutenant - 17 May 1980

First Lieutenant - 17 November 1982

Captain - 17 November 1984

Major - 1 February 1993

Lieutenant Colonel - 1 December 1997

Colonel - 1 March 2003

(Current as of December 2005)